

Everybody Hates Chris

"Everybody Hates Basketball"

Episode 004

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Directed by
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Everybody Hates Chris
Episode 004
"Everybody Hates Basketball"
Cast List

JULIUS	TERRY CREWS
ROCHELLE.....	TICHINA ARNOLD
CHRIS.....	TYLER WILLIAMS
DREW.....	TEQUAN RICHMOND
TONYA.....	IMANI HAKIM
GREG.....	VINCENT MARTELLA
CARUSO	TRAVIS FLORY
ADULT CHRIS	CHRIS ROCK
COACH BRADY.....	
MS. PATTITUCCI	
TATE	
ERNIE D.	
PREACHER.....	
SKANKY LADY.....	
HER MAN	
JENNIFER.....	
KID	
WOMAN.....	
OLD WHITE LADY	

Everybody Hates Chris
Episode 004
"Everybody Hates Basketball"
Sets List

INTERIORS

CHRIS'S HOUSE

- LIVING ROOM
- DINING ROOM
- KITCHEN
- PARENTS' BEDROOM
- HALLWAY
- UPSTAIRS APARTMENT
- UPSTAIRS APARTMENT
HALLWAY
- STAIRWAY

CORLEONE MIDDLE SCHOOL

- GYM
- CLASS ROOM
- HALLWAY
- LOCKER ROOM

CHRIS'S OLD SCHOOL
BOWLING ALLEY

EXTERIORS

VARICK STREET

FRONT PORCH

CORLEONE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

- SCHOOL STEPS
- BASKETBALL COURT

COLD OPEN

- 1 EXT. CORLEONE JUNIOR HIGH - DAY 1
- STUDENTS are standing around in clusters in front of the school as CHRIS approaches GREG and a GROUP OF NERDS.
- ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)
The toughest thing about going to a new school was making friends. Greg was okay, but he wasn't the type of kid I usually hung out with. I was never a nerd before.
- 2 INT. CHRIS'S OLD SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY 2
- Dozens of Black kids walk down the hall.
- ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)
At my old school there were tons of kids like me. Do you see me? No? That's because I fit right in.
- FREEZE FRAME ON CHRIS:
- ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)
There I am.
- We see Chris.
- 3 BACK TO SCENE - CORLEONE JUNIOR HIGH - DAY 3
- We pan across the students outside of the school.
- ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)
But at Corleone, I didn't fit in anywhere. Not with the Jocks...
- 4 ANGLE ON: JOCKS lounging on the top steps. 4
- ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)
Not with the smart kids...
- 5 ANGLE ON: A group of STUDIOUS KIDS. 5
- ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)
Not with the trouble makers...
- 6 ANGLE ON: CARUSO and a gang of TROUBLE MAKERS. 6

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)
And definitely not with the "drama"
crowd.

7 ANGLE ON: a group of depressed looking GIRLS and one very 7
conspicuous GUY on a car, doing dance moves a la "Fame."

8 ANGLE ON: Chris settles in with Greg, as the others cheer a 8
Rubik's Cube race. One kid wins! Cheers!! Caruso comes
along and snatches the Rubik's cube and his boys run off
tossing it back and forth.

KID
(looking around)
Hey! Give it back!

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)
What did he say that for?

BAM!!! He gets hit with it. Chris looks over to the Drama
Gang. The guy is dancing Madonna-style.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)
Maybe drama wasn't so bad.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

9 INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

9

Chris is pretending to dribble an invisible basketball as they walk down the hall. Greg hands Chris a piece of paper. COACH BRADY, the school basketball coach, walks by and notices Chris but says nothing.

GREG

Check it out.

CHRIS

What's this?

GREG

It's a breakdown of who's got the better front court, the Knicks or the Lakers..

Chris takes the paper.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

Since me and Greg couldn't play sports, we talked about them all the time...

CHRIS

Front court? What difference does it make who's in the front court when Magic Johnson is in the backcourt...?

GREG

I think the Knicks will take it this year.

CHRIS

I wish.

MS. PATTITUCCI -- 30s, joyless -- is coming down the hall, clutching a briefcase. She smiles at them.

MS. PATTITUCCI

(especially nice)

Good morning, gentlemen.

After she passes, Chris pauses.

CHRIS

What was that?

GREG

We're having a social studies quiz.

CHRIS

How do you know that? All she said was "hi."

GREG

Trust me on this. Ms. Pattitucci used to teach at my grade school. She never spoke to kids unless she was giving a pop quiz.

(beat)

I'm gonna get everybody together so we can study.

Greg runs off. Chris balls the paper up, does a little fake dribbling...

CHRIS

Magic Johnson has the ball with three seconds left on the clock... three... two...

Chris shoots it across the hall into a wastebasket.

CHRIS

(softly)
The crowd goes wild!!!

REVEAL

Coach Brady still watching. He chases after Chris.

COACH BRADY

Hey, kid! Wait up.

He grabs Chris's shoulder.

COACH BRADY

What's your name? Are you a student here?

CHRIS

I'm Chris. I just transferred here. Who are you?

COACH BRADY

I'm Coach Brady. Welcome to Corleone Junior High. What I mean is -- welcome to the basketball team.

CHRIS

The basketball team? I didn't try
out for the basketball team.

COACH BRADY

Son, after a shot like that you
don't have to.

CHRIS

What? I just tossed a paper ball
into the garbage.

COACH BRADY

Yeah, from thirty feet. Look, son,
I know you probably play up at the
courts in Harlem.

CHRIS

Actually, I live in Bed Stuy.

COACH BRADY

Right. Anyway, I know this is
probably just some two bit school
to you, but we've got a decent
team, we were five and twenty last
season, but with you... I'm asking
you, give my program a shot.

CHRIS

What do you mean "give your program
a shot"? I can't play.

COACH BRADY

Look, if you're having a problem
with your grades, we can handle
that.

CHRIS

My grades are fine... It's just...
I can't play...

Coach Brady doesn't seem to understand.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

I tried to play basketball once...

Two hands dribbling a ball expertly, between the legs,
feinting left and right -- an artist and his tools. TILT UP:
The dribbler is DREW.

He passes the ball to Chris, who catches it with his face.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)
But I sucked. I sucked at every
sport I tried. Baseball...

11 CHRIS GETS HIT IN THE FACE WITH THE BALL... 11

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)
Football...

12 CHRIS GETS HIT IN THE FACE WITH THE BALL... 12

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)
Like a fool, I even tried bowling.

13 CHRIS IS IN FRONT OF A RACK OF BOWLING BALLS. A BOWLING BALL 13
KNOCKS HIM OUT OF FRAME.

14 BACK TO SCENE - INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY 14

COACH BRADY
Look son, I need you on this team.
(beat)
What's your name again?

CHRIS
My name's Chris.

COACH BRADY
"Swish." That's you -- Swish!

Coach Brady mimes the ball going through the net.

COACH BRADY
You can suit up tomorrow. We're up
against Shell Bay. Be at the gym
at three-thirty.

Chris stares at him as he rushes off.

15 INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY 15

JULIUS and ROCHELLE sit across from a PROSPECTIVE TENANT.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)
When my mother wasn't working,
sometimes we would rent out our
upstairs apartment to make ends
meet.

16 SECOND TENANT 16
A WOMAN with TEN KIDS

ROCHELLE
Are all of these children yours?

WOMAN
Six of them are. I don't know
where these other kids came from.
Do y'all take food stamps?

17 THIRD TENANT 17
An OVER ZEALOUS PREACHER

JULIUS
So you say you work at the church?

PREACHER
(preaching)
I need a place to stay, huh! Don't
wanna pay more than three hundred
dollars a month, huh! Do y'all
take... huh!... I said do y'all
take... food stamps, huh?!!!

18 FOURTH TENANT 18
A JEALOUS SKANKY WOMAN stares at HER MAN as he talks to
Rochelle.

ROCHELLE
Do you have kids?

SKANKY WOMAN
(to man)
Why you got to look at her like
that?

HER MAN
If you comb your hair and wash your
stanking ass, maybe I'd look at you
like that.

(MORE)

HER MAN (CONT'D)
(to Julius)
Do y'all take food stamps?

Rochelle and Julius watch them argue...

A LITTLE OLD WHITE LADY with a CAT.

OLD WHITE LADY
I just love Bedford Stuyvesant. I
grew up around here you know.

Julius and Rochelle look at each other. They can't do this
to this woman.

OLD WHITE LADY
Do you take food stamps?

A NICE OLDER BLACK MAN, MR. TATE, is looking at a newspaper
ad, standing in front of the house. Julius is coming down
the stairs.

JULIUS
Can I help you?

TATE
You know if that apartment is still
for rent?

JULIUS
Yeah... that's my place. I'm
Julius.

Julius shakes his hand.

TATE
Tate. How much you asking?

JULIUS
Four-fifty...

TATE
That sounds kind of low. Something
wrong with it?

JULIUS

No, it's quiet. Clean. It gets a little hot sometimes, but that's it. My wife and kids are right downstairs.

TATE

Well, I'm not too picky. I can pay you four months advance...

JULIUS

Four months?

TATE

Alright, six, but that's it.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

With six months in advance rent, he could've shot my father right there and still gotten the apartment.

Tate pulls a wad out and starts to pay. Julius stops him.

JULIUS

Don't pull that money out like that. These guys out here will rob you, me and everybody we know.

They head inside.

ANGLE ON: In the background, a MASKED GUNMEN appears from behind a car. He walks off dejected.

21 EXT. CORLEONE JUNIOR HIGH - DAY

21

Greg and Chris are walking together.

GREG

So we're all getting together to study during lunch--

ERNIE D., a basketball player, walks up to Chris. The OTHER PLAYERS are with him.

ERNIE D.

You're Chris, right?

CHRIS

(a little scared)
Yeah...

ERNIE D.
I'm Ernie D. This is the team.

AD-LIB HELLOS.

ERNIE D.
Come on, let's grab some food.

Chris is embraced by the team as they walk off, leaving Greg behind.

Chris is holding court. He's holding a basketball. The other players are gathered around him.

CHRIS
Bird's got the range, but Magic...
he scored forty-two points as a
rookie subbing for Abdul Jabbar!
Are you kidding?! But I'm telling
you, I think the Knicks might take
it this year.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)
A boy can dream...

A cute White girl, JENNIFER, comes over.

JENNIFER
Hey, you must be Chris. I'm
Jennifer.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)
At that moment I discovered one of
life's great secrets. Black Guy
plus basketball equals White Girl.

Greg comes over.

GREG
Hey, Chris, you want to study for
this quiz?

CHRIS
(sotto)
Does it look like I want to study?
Look at me! I'm killing! I'm two
feet from a girl!

As Greg walks off, Caruso comes by and seeing Chris, stops...

CARUSO

Hey, Chris...

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

That was the first time Caruso ever
said my name.

Chris's eyes get big.

CARUSO

Good luck in the game tomorrow.

Time slows down.

CHRIS

Good luck finding an ax to go with
that shirt.

The jocks all laugh.

ERNIE D.

(doofy voice)

Look, I'm a lumberjack.

The jocks laugh harder. Caruso glares and moves off.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

Being on the basketball team was
going to be great!

23 QUICK CUT - CHRIS GETS A BALL IN THE FACE. 23

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

As long as I didn't have to play.

24 INT. HALLWAY - DAY 24

Rochelle and Julius come upstairs.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

Even though my father was the man
of the house, he wasn't supposed to
make decisions without my mother.

ROCHELLE

(whisper yell)

Rented it to who?

JULIUS

His name is Tate.

ROCHELLE

Is that a first name or a last name?

JULIUS

I don't know...

ROCHELLE

Did you at least get some references?

Pulls out a ROLL OF BILLS.

JULIUS

Yeah, Hamilton, Grant and Lincoln.

Rochelle knocks on Tate's door and she and Julius enter.

Tate is standing in the middle of a sparsely furnished apartment. A small sofa and table.

TATE

This is nice. I like it.

JULIUS

(cautious)
Rochelle, this is Mr. Tate.

ROCHELLE

(restrained)
My husband says you're from Chicago.

JULIUS

I didn't...

She shoots Julius a look.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

That look means, "shut up, I know what I'm doing."

TATE

No, no... I'm from Philly

ROCHELLE

Philly? I love Philly.

TATE

It's alright.

Rochelle gives him a quizzical look.

ROCHELLE

Okay. It's nice to meet you.

She gives Julius a "get in this hallway" look.

JULIUS

You need anything you let us know.

Rochelle is headed downstairs in a huff.

ROCHELLE

Philly? Hmph. That man is not from Philly.

JULIUS

How do you know that?

ROCHELLE

People from Philly don't shut up about Philly. They want to talk about cheese steak, Bill Cosby... Who you know from Philly didn't say nothing about Patti Labelle? That man could be a serial killer on the run from the law for all you know.

JULIUS

You're overreacting. That man is not a serial killer.

ROCHELLE

If he was he wouldn't tell you.

JULIUS

Rochelle, everything I need to know about that man for the next six months is right inside my pocket.

ROCHELLE

Oh. So what I think doesn't matter... fine. But when the cops come busting the door down we'll see who's overreacting.

26

CONTINUED:

26

She starts to walk off. Then comes back to get some money.

27

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

27

Chris is sitting by Greg. Ms. Pattitucci shuts the door.

MS. PATTITUCCI

Books under desks. Eyes straight
ahead. We're having a pop quiz.

Greg pumps his fist in the air.

GREG

Yes! I knew it!

She has the kids pass the quiz around. From Chris's
expression, we can see he's screwed. He looks at Greg, who
shrugs without sympathy.

GREG

Good luck, Swish.

MS. PATTITUCCI

No talking!

28

INT. STAIRWAY - DAY

28

Rochelle is about to walk down the stairs.

TATE (O.S.)

Oh, Miss Rochelle?

Rochelle is startled and looks back at Tate.

TATE

I don't mean to bother you... can I
borrow a little Scotch tape and
some ten pound test fishing line?

ROCHELLE

Fishing line?

TATE

Ten pound test.

ROCHELLE

We don't have any fishing line, Mr.
Tate.

28

CONTINUED:

28

TATE

Maybe your husband does.

ROCHELLE

And maybe I'll ask him when he comes home.

Tate goes back up the stairs making no sound, as a worried Rochelle heads into her apartment.

ROCHELLE

That man is not from Philly.

29

EXT. FRONT PORCH - LATER

29

Chris and Drew sit on the steps.

CHRIS

I need a favor.

(beat)

I got on the basketball team and I need to learn how to play by tomorrow.

DREW

The basketball team? Man, are you crazy? You know you can't play.

CHRIS

Didn't I just say that? I just need to know enough to look like I know something.

DREW

Do you know how to faint?

CHRIS

You mean like, fake somebody out...

DREW

No, I mean like fall down and bang your head on the floor so you won't have to play.

Drew walks off.

30

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

30

Rochelle is talking on the phone.

30

CONTINUED:

30

ROCHELLE
(into phone, pleasant)
Okay... thank you so much for
calling, Ms. Pattituuci.
(hangs up)
Chris!!

31

INT. DINING ROOM - SAME

31

Chris looks up from his plate. "*Oh shit!*" Rochelle enters.

ROCHELLE
Why do I have to find out what's
going on in my house like I live
next door?
(to Julius)
That was your teacher, Chris. How
come you didn't tell me you failed
a quiz?

JULIUS
You failed a quiz?

ROCHELLE
Oh it gets better. Since he failed
that quiz, he can't play his
basketball game tomorrow.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)
Thank the Lord!!!!

JULIUS
You're on the basketball team?
How come you didn't tell us?
That's great!

TONYA
Can we come to your game?

JULIUS
This is great! My man!!

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)
My mother would have told me I
couldn't play, but she knew it was
a big deal to my father.

Rochelle cuts her eyes at Julius.

ROCHELLE

Fortunately for you, your coach got
you a makeup quiz.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

Damnit!

ROCHELLE

So you better get upstairs and
study, because if you don't pass
that quiz, I'm gonna score forty on
your behind!

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

32 INT. PARENTS' BEDROOM - NIGHT

32

Rochelle lies in bed wide awake, staring at the ceiling.

SFX: FOOTSTEPS... then, a DRAGGING NOISE. A toilet FLUSH... more FOOTSTEPS right to left, more DRAGGING... Another FLUSH.

Julius comes in from work.

ROCHELLE

Julius! You hear that?

JULIUS

What are you doing up? Hear what?
(he listens)
I don't hear anything.

ROCHELLE

Julius. Go up there and find out what he's doing.

JULIUS

I just want to lay down for a few minutes before I go back to work.

ROCHELLE

I'm not getting any sleep, you're not getting any sleep.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

That was mean. Taking sleep from my father was like taking clear heels from hookers.

Julius huffs and exits.

33 INT. UPSTAIRS APARTMENT HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

33

Julius can HEAR DRAGGING sounds a little more clearly. He knocks softly. The sounds STOP. The door opens just a crack. Tate peeks out. He speaks as if it's not 2 AM.

TATE

Hey, Mr. Julius, how you doing?

JULIUS

Can I come in for a second?

Without cracking the door even an inch further.

TATE

This isn't a good time, Mr. Julius.

JULIUS

My wife said she heard some sounds
and it's keeping her up.

TATE

Sounds? Hmm... I didn't hear
anything.

He doesn't budge. Pregnant pause.

JULIUS

Look, just... If you hear
something, you let me know.

TATE

Will do, Mr. Julius.

He closes the door quickly. Julius hears LATCHES.

34 INT. PARENTS' BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

34

Julius gets in bed.

ROCHELLE

What's he doing?

JULIUS

Nothing. Go to sleep.

(beat)

Did you have latches put on the
door upstairs?

ROCHELLE

No, why?

JULIUS

(yawning)

Nothing. Wake me up in half an
hour.

She stares at the ceiling. So does Julius.

35 INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

35

Chris approaches his locker and is shocked to see that it's
been GAUDILY DECORATED with stars, paper basketballs, glitter
and the words: "Beat Shell Bay!"

CHRIS

I wasn't trying to blow you off the other day... It's just...

GREG

It's just that I'm not cool.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

I liked hanging out with Greg, but a life without daily ass whuppings had its appeal.

CHRIS

It's not like that. I just -- it feels good catching a break.

GREG

I can't blame you. If I were you I guess I'd do the same thing.

(then)

Hey, I think I aced that quiz.

CHRIS

I failed.

GREG

Doesn't that mean you can't play ball?

CHRIS

Yeah.

GREG

Waitamminute. How do you know you failed? Pattitucci's not even finished grading yet.

CHRIS

Coach Brady found out my score and got me a makeup. My mother made me study all night and if I don't pass it she'll kill me.

GREG

But if you play, everybody's going to hate you.

CHRIS

Not everybody, just everybody on the team, everybody who likes the team and... everybody else.

GREG

Too bad you studied. Then at least
only your mother would kill you.

36 INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

36

SEVERAL SHOTS

Chris, the only student in the room, is taking the quiz. Ms.
Pattitucci sits at her desk, going over papers.

CHRIS

All done.

Ms. Pattitucci yanks the cap off a RED PEN. She smiles.

A FEW MINUTES LATER

Ms. Pattitucci finishes grading the quiz. Chris waits for
the news.

MS. PATTITUCCI

You passed.

CHRIS

What? Let me see that.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

I decided to fail the test on
purpose. I didn't need an ass
whipping by a whole school. I
could always make up a grade.

CHRIS

Every answer on here is wrong.

MS. PATTITUCCI

You are on the basketball team,
right?

CHRIS

Yeah, but...

MS. PATTITUCCI

Good luck at the game!

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

Another life secret...Black man
plus basketball equals a "C+".

37 INT. CORLEONE JUNIOR HIGH - SCHOOL HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER 37

Chris exits the classroom and finds Coach Brady and the team all suited up, waiting expectantly.

CHRIS

I passed.

The jocks CHEER, "SWISH! SWISH! SWISH!" Chris moves with the crowd toward the gym.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

This is how Milli Vanilli must've felt when they were walking up to accept that Grammy.

38 INT. UPSTAIRS APARTMENT HALLWAY - DAY 38

Rochelle taps at Tate's door.

ROCHELLE

Mr. Tate, I want to talk to you.
Mr. Tate?

Getting no answer, Rochelle tries the door. It opens.

39 INT. UPSTAIRS APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS 39

No one home.

ROCHELLE

Mr. Tate?
(sotto)
I don't know what you're doing up here, but I intend to find out.

Rochelle starts rummaging around. She opens a drawer on a night stand and finds it stuffed with candy wrappers.

ROCHELLE

What the...?

SHOTS

Rochelle searches all over the apartment and the only thing out of the ordinary that she can find is CANDY WRAPPERS and empty YOO HOO bottles.

40 INT. UPSTAIRS APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

40

Rochelle enters from one of the other rooms with a small bag of EVIDENCE and there is Tate.

TATE

May I help you, Miss Rochelle?

Rochelle YELPS and jumps. She drops everything.

ROCHELLE

I... I just wanted to... make sure your radiator was working. It gets cold up here...

Tate approaches her, smiling.

TATE

Would you like a candy bar?

Rochelle nervously circles towards the door.

ROCHELLE

No... thank you...

Julius enters.

JULIUS

(concerned)

I heard a scream. Is everything okay?

Rochelle quickly moves behind Julius.

TATE

Everything is okay. Miss Rochelle was just going through my things.

JULIUS

Rochelle! Quit fooling around. We gotta get to Chris's game...

He pulls her out.

TATE

I hope you found what you were looking for...

ROCHELLE

(sotto)

That man is not from Philly...

41 INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY 41

Chris, suited up, laces his sneakers. Coach Brady approaches with a clipboard.

COACH BRADY
Swish, I want to walk you through a couple of plays.
(diagraming on board)
Basically, here's you with the ball, and here's the rest of the guys getting out of your way. Got it?

CHRIS
Yeah... I got it.

MUSIC PLAYS. Chris finishes getting dressed.

42 INT. GYM - LATER 42

SURREAL SEQUENCE

43 CHEERLEADERS go through a cheer. 43

44 STUDENTS CHEER from the side lines. 44

45 THE TEAM waits on the bench and then... 45

46 Chris dramatically enters the gym... CHEERS RISE UP!! 46
Julius, Rochelle, Tonya and Drew watch from the sidelines...

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)
You hear all those people? They believed in me. And if they believed in me, damnit, I was going to believe in myself.

47 CHRIS GETS HIT IN THE FACE WITH THE BALL. 47

48 A BUILDING IMPLODES. 48

49 CHRIS HAS HIS SHOT BLOCKED. 49

50 THE BISMARCK SINKS. 50

51 CHRIS HAS THE BALL STOLEN FROM HIM. 51

52 THE AGONY OF DEFEAT SKIING CLIP FROM WIDE WORLD OF SPORTS. 52

53 JENNIFER THE WHITE GIRL MOUTHS THE WORDS "COME ON NIGGER!!" 53

54 A DRAGSTER FLIPS AND EXPLODES. 54

55 INT. GYM - DAY 55

THE BUZZER SOUNDS! SCORE BOARD. CORLEONE 2 - VISITOR 79.

Chris is sitting on the bench. The Coach is standing there, the team is behind him.

COACH BRADY

You said you were from Harlem!

56 INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT 56

The family is around the table.

JULIUS

Sorry about the game, man.

DREW

You should've fainted like I told you.

TONYA

Who was that White girl that kept screaming at you?

CHRIS

Nobody.

ROCHELLE

I'm sorry, baby.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

Some kids wonder what they're going to be when they grow up. I was lucky because I knew what to give up on immediately.

CHRIS

It's okay. At least I passed my social studies quiz.

We hear the sound of DRAGGING and FLUSHING again.

TONYA

What's that?

DREW

Yeah, how come he keeps flushing
the toilet?

JULIUS

Just ignore that.

Rochelle gets up and motions for Julius to come to the
kitchen.

JULIUS

(nonchalant)

Anybody want some Kool-Aid..?

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

ROCHELLE

Julius, I'm tired of this. I don't
care where he's from, I don't care
where he goes, but he's got to get
the hell out of my house.

INT. UPSTAIRS APARTMENT - A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Julius and Rochelle at Tate's door, knocking. As usual, the
NOISE inside stops and the door opens just a crack.

TATE

Yes, Mr. Julius...

JULIUS

We need to come in.

TATE

Now?

ROCHELLE

Yes, now!

He closes the door and starts UNLATCHING. He opens the door.

INT. UPSTAIRS APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Rochelle enters, looking around.

ROCHELLE

You have to go!

TATE

You're kicking me out?

JULIUS

Sorry... It's not gonna work out.

TATE

I gave you six months rent.

JULIUS

I know. I know... You've only
stayed here three days so that's--

He goes in his pocket and with increasing pain, pulls out the bills...

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

You don't how much that hurts him.

JULIUS

That's four-fifty divided by
thirty... fifteen... times three...
forty-five...

He peels off a few bills which he puts back in his pocket. He reaches in another pocket and pulls out some change -- Rochelle grabs the change and shoves it into Tate's hands.

ROCHELLE

You need to be out of here tonight!

She turns to walk out... Julius makes a conciliatory face towards Tate...

ROCHELLE

Come on, Julius.

They exit into the hall.

As they close the door --

JULIUS

You didn't have to --

A hand clamps down over Julius's mouth. Someone grabs Rochelle.

REVEAL

A TEAM OF SWAT GUYS, in full body armor and carrying guns, are lined up along the stairwell and on the landing.

THE LEADER nods and gives Julius and Rochelle the "be quiet" signal with his finger. As Julius and Rochelle make their way down the stairway, Rochelle AD-LIBS "I told you so's," more SWAT guys go up, giving each other silent COMMANDO HAND SIGNALS.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)
Turned out my mother was right.
Mr. Tate was not from Philly. He
was wanted in so many states for so
many crimes that when they caught
him they had to let thirty guys go.

ROCHELLE
What I tell you?

Rochelle and Julius slip back into their apartment.

61 INT. DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

61

Rochelle and Julius re-enter. THE SOUNDS OF THE RAID can be HEARD.

CHRIS
What's that?

ROCHELLE
Oh nothing. Just Mr. Tate leaving.

62 EXT. CORLEONE JUNIOR HIGH - DAY

62

Chris approaches the school. Caruso appears.

CARUSO
Nice game, Raj. The one chance you
have to make yourself useful and
you blow it. I would punch you if
you didn't stink so bad.

He heads off. Chris notices the students standing around in clusters in front of school as in the opening scene.

63 ANGLE ON: Jocks lounging on the top steps.

63

64 ANGLE ON: Caruso and a gang of trouble makers.

64

65 ANGLE ON: The Drama crowd. The Drama Guy is doing his best "Beat It" Michael Jackson. 65

66 ANGLE ON: The Nerds. Chris joins Greg. They head into school together. 66

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)
They really weren't bad guys. And the good thing about hanging with nerds was, you didn't have to re-apply to get back in.

67 INT. CLASSROOM - DAY 67

Ms. Pattitucci is passing out the quizzes.

GREG
I heard what happened.

CHRIS
You didn't come to the game?

GREG
I couldn't bear to watch.

Greg's paper comes around.

GREG
B+... cool.

Chris's paper comes back. It has a big "F" on it.

CHRIS
Hey wait a second. I thought I had a "C+."

MS. PATTITUCCI
I thought you were on the team.

END OF SHOW